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Lt. Governor Skillman announces finalists in 2012 Indiana "Stellar Communities" program

INDIANAPOLIS (February 27, 2012) – Lt. Governor Skillman announced today that seven Hoosier communities have been selected as finalists in the highly competitive "Stellar Communities" program. The program was launched last year to fund comprehensive community development projects in Indiana's smaller cities and towns.

"Each of the finalists demonstrated a comprehensive plan with the potential to transform their community," said Lt. Governor Becky Skillman. "Only two will be our next Stellar Communities, but all seven will benefit from the long-term strategic planning."

Finalists are:

- City of Auburn
- City of Crawfordsville
- City of Delphi
- City of Petersburg
- City of Princeton
- City of Richmond
- Town of Whitestown

Each finalist community will receive \$10,000 to prepare an in-depth Strategic Investment Plan proposal, and will also participate in a site visit with the state selection team. In May, two of the finalist communities will be announced as this year's Stellar Communities.

The state's Stellar Communities program is a partnership between three state agencies: the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority, Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs, and Indiana Department of Transportation. Selected communities will complete multiple community development projects funded by the three partner agencies' programs, which may address housing, water infrastructure needs, street and roadwork, streetscape and lighting needs, community centers, revitalization projects, and other quality of life issues.

For more information, please visit http://www.in.gov/ocra/2513.htm.